The Simultaneous Nature of Thinking and Thanking

Psalms 107:2-8

1. Think about what the Lord has done: “[2] Let the redeemed of the Lord proclaim that he has redeemed them from the power of the foe [3] and has gathered them from the lands—from the east and the west, from the north and the south. [4] Some wandered in the desolate wilderness, finding no way to a city where they could live. [5] They were hungry and thirsty; their spirits failed within them. [6] Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble; he rescued them from their distress. [7] He led them by the right path to go to a city where they could live. [8] Let them give thanks to the Lord for his faithful love.”
    a. This text is filled with “ed”: redeem**ed**; gather**ed**; wander**ed**; failed; cri**ed**; rescu**ed**; l**ed**.
    b. “ed” is an inflection most commonly used to form a past tense.
    c. This text is about reflecting on what God has done. Therefore, if you are going to show gratitude and do some “Thanking”; you have to do some reflecting.
    d. “Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.” (Philippians 4:8)
    e. [3] When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; [4] What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man,

that thou visitest him? [5] For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour. [6] Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet." (Psalms 8:3-6)

2. **Think about what God has done for others**
    a. Your testimony is important so we can praise God with you: "And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death." (Revelations 12:11)
    b. Your testimony is proof of God's goodness: "[13] I would have fainted, unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. [14] Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart. Wait, I say, on the Lord!" (Psalms 27:13-14)
    c. Your testimony encourages: "not neglecting to gather together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging each other, and all the more as you see the day approaching." (Hebrews 10:25)
    d. Your testimony calls us join in:
        i. "O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together." (Psalms 34:3)
        ii. "[46] And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, [47] Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved." (Acts 2:46-47)

3. **Think about what God has done for you**
    a. He got you out of mess: “This poor man called, and the Lord heard him; he saved him out of all his troubles.” (Psalms 34:6, NIV)
        i. “[4] Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge. [5] Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me. [6] Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb; you taught me wisdom in that secret place.” (Psalms 51:4-6, NIV)
    b. The Lord kept you mind: “You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You.” (Isaiah 26:3)
    c. Don’t miss your blessing: “[15] One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. [16] He threw himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan. [17] Jesus asked, “Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? [18] Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?” [19] Then he said to him, “Rise and go; your faith has made you well.” (Luke 17:15-18, NIV)
    d. Never forget your one thing: “He replied, “Whether he is a sinner or not, I don’t know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!” (John 9:25, NIV)
4. **Think about who God is**

a. God is just great: “Great is the Lord! He is most worthy of praise! No one can measure his greatness.” (Psalms 145:3, NLT)
b. There’s no God like our God: “For the Lord your God is the God of gods and Lord of lords. He is the great God, the mighty and awesome God, who shows no partiality and cannot be bribed.” (Deuteronomy 10:17, NLT)
c. He’s God above all: “For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.” (Isaiah 9:6)
d. He’s just worthy: “[7] But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: [8] And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. [9] Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: [10] That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; [11] And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” (Philippians 2:7-11)